# THE BOMBAY COURIER.

PUBLISHED TWICE A WEEK,—EVERY SATURDAY AND TUESDAY MORNING.—PRICE 13 RUPEES PER QUARTER.

VOL. XLI.] TUESDAY, 30 JULY, 1833. [NO. 2261.



## ADVERTISEMENT.

ECCLESIASTICAL SIDE.

*In the matter of the Exemplification of Probate of the last Will and Testament of ROBERT WAITE, Esquire, late a Captain in the Military Service of the United Company of Merchants of England, trading to the East Indies on their Bombay Establishment.*

APPLICATION having been made to the Supreme Court of Judicature at Bombay, that the Letters of Administration to the Estate and Effects of the said ROBERT WAITE, deceased, granted to MARTIN WEST, Esquire, the Ecclesiastical Registrar of this Honorable Court, be revoked and Cancelled, and that Letters of administration with the Exemplification of Probate of the said last Will and Testament of the said ROBERT WAITE, deceased, annexed thereto, may be granted to LEWIS GRANT, of Bombay, Merchant, as one of the Attornies of AUGUSTUS GRAFTON, and WALTER HALL CAPPER, two of the Executors named in the said Will; all persons concerned are hereby apprized thereof.—Dated this 29th day of July, 1833.

C. A. WEST,
PROCTOR.

NOTICE.—The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the "ALLIANCE INSURANCE OFFICE" of Calcutta, are authorized to grant Policies payable in Bombay, Calcutta, Canton, or London.

Messrs SHEDDEN AND CO. Sec's. in Calcutta.
" RUSSELL AND CO. Agents in Canton.
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McGREGOR EDMOND AND CO.
*Bombay, 20th July,* 1833.

NOTICE.—The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the "INDEMNITY INSURANCE OFFICE" of Calcutta, are authorized to grant Policies payable in Bombay, Calcutta, or London.

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McGREGOR EDMOND AND CO.
*Bombay, 20th July,* 1833.

ON Sale at the Godowns of McGREGOR EDMOND and CO.—Patent Filterers received per Ship "*Hero,*" from the Inventors and Patentees, Messrs YRIGOYTE and WILLIAMS, of London.
*Bombay, 30th July,* 1833.

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*Bombay, 30th July,* 1833.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

NOTICE is hereby given, that THUCKER RUTTONSEY DHARSEE, has purchased a Dwelling House from RAGOBA ANUNTAJEE, and KESSOW ANUNTAJEE, administrators of the late ANUNTA RAGOWJEE, situated without the Fort walls of Bombay, in Kitchen Garden, near Green Market, upon which property should any person or persons have any claim, he, she or they, may apply to the said THUCKER RUTTONSEY DHARSEE, at is Shop in a Oart, near Calca Davee, ithout the fort Walls, within fourteen days om the date hereof; otherwise he, she, or ney, will be precluded therefrom.
*Bombay 27th July,* 1833.

## जाहीर खबर.

खबर दिल्ही जाते ऐसीजे ठक
रतनशी धारसीने राहावयाचे
र एक राघोबा अनंताजी व के
ाव अनंताजी हे दोघे कैलासवासी
अनंता राघवजीचे वकील आहेत,
ग पासून विकत घेतले आहे, तें
बाहेरकोट शाकतरकारीचे
र जवळ कीचन वाडींत
ाहे, त्यावर कोणी लोक कींवा लो
ांचा दावा असेल तर त्याणी हे
कर रतनशी धारसी याचे दु
कालकादेवी जबलचे वाडीत

JUST Published—The number XX of the ORIENTAL SPORTING MAGAZINE.

CONTENTS.—No. 1 The Married Hog-Hunter,—2 Reminiscences of the Fancy,—3 Song, "Fill the Goblet to the brim,"—4 The Florikan,—5 A Bison Hunt,—6 Another Wild Elephant on the Western Coast of India,—7 Captain Mundy,—8 Animals by their proper names,—9 Splendid Exploit of a Native Infantry Regiment,—10 Lines for the O. S. M.—11 Native Pharmacopeia,—12 Hunters of Yore,—13 A Song,—14 Hunting in the Southern Mahratta Country,—15 An Epistle from the Northern Concan,—16 Steeple Chases,—17 Performances of Chester,—18 The Hunting and Shooting Diversions of the Boondelas,—19 A Sagacious Horse,—20 The Union Coach,—Races to Come, and the Racing Calendar.

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| KOTAH. | | |
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### MILITARY ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVAL.

Lieutenant H. Morse, 8th Regt. N. I. from Nugger.

DEPARTURE.

Capt. Thomas Charles Parr, 7th Regt. N. I. to Deesa.

### DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

BIRTH.

At Surat on the 13th of June, the Lady of Captain D. George Duff, 16th Regiment, of a Daughter

On the 21st July, at Ahmednuggur, the Lady of R. Mills Esq, Civil Service, of a Son.

DEATHS.

At Bombay on 27th inst. Mary, daughter of D. Greenhill, Esq. Civil Service.

### SHIPPING REPORT.

ARRIVAL. and DEPARTURES, None since our last.

LIST OF SHIPPING IN THE HARBOUR.

HON'BLE COMPANY'S SHIPS.—Lady Melville, Farquharson, Herefordshire, and Lowther Castle.
HON'BLE COMPANY'S BRIG OF WAR.—Tigris.
HON'BLE COMPANY'S STEAMER—Hugh Lindsay.
HON'BLE COMPANY'S SCHOONER—Shannon.
FREE TRADERS.—Sorah, Egyptian, Diamond, Hall, Charles Kerr, Hero, Lady Feversham Spence, Surrey, and Mary Bibby,
COUNTRY SHIPS.—Futtay Eslam, John William Dare, Maria, Discovery, Lord Castlereagh, Asia Felix, Cyrene, Sir Charles Malcolm, Hamoody, Minerva, Ann, Valasondram, Ann Fellis, Louisa, Sumdaney, Glenelg, Sultana, Gulnare and Pittamber.
PORTUGUESE.—Consoliel, and Amelia.
FRENCH.—La Pactoile, and Buffon.
ARAB.—Futtell Raymon.

# THE COURIER.

*TUESDAY,* 30 *JULY,* 1833.

We regret to say the tappàl, with the last Surat dawk, was drowned the day before yesterday in one of the streams to the northward. Some of the letters by the dawk have arrived, but are so much wetted as to be scarcely legible.

The steam fund progresses rapidly. In a preceding column will be found a very respectable list of subscriptions from Poona headed by Lord Clare; and also one from Ajmere which does great credit to the residents of that distant station.—We forgot to mention in our last that the inhabitants of Agra have come forward with a fresh subscription which amounts to between three and four thousand rupees. Some of the donations are really munificent; and what is of more importance, are in favor of the Bombay plan, which, with all its imperfections, is very wisely supported in preference to all others, in central and upper India.

The Calcutta papers just received contain a report of a case of some importance which has lately been decided at Penang by the new recorder, Sir Benjamin Malkin. An action it seems was brought by a Mr. Caunter against the Hon'ble Company to recover arrears of salary upon the following grounds:—Mr. Caunter received the office of Law agent to the Penang Government from Mr. Fullerton, the then Governor of the straits, upon the understanding that his appointment should be subject to the confirmation, or otherwise, of the Court of Directors. No confirmation however was received; but an order was despatched by the court for remodelling the whole law establishment of Penang. Upon the receipt of this Mr. Caunter received an intimation from the local government that his appointment was done away with. But as neither the confirmation of the court nor their dissent had been received to the measure, he has brought a claim for arrears of salary from the period at which the notice was given, up to the time of trial, and has obtained in verdict in his favor!

Baron Von Hugel whose residence here most of our readers must remember from his magnificent uniform, if from nothing else, we observe has been writing to the Editor of the Colombo Journal upon the affairs of Egypt! His remarks will be found in another column. But before we proceed to notice them we must just stop to inquire what could possibly have induced the worthy writer to come forward upon such a subject, in such a place, and at such a time? Is there any lurking enmity against the "great Pacha" which seeks an opportunity of venting itself upon all occasions? Did Mahomed Ali's "penetrating eye" which appears to have made such an impression upon the Baron, induce the former to treat him with less attention than he perhaps expected: or are we to attribute to pure philanthropy the blind and indiscriminate abuse which has been lavished at Point de Galle upon all in Egypt?

The Pacha himself, it appears by the Baron, has "no idea of the words science and arts," which perhaps means that he does not admire collections of birds and butterflies, and looks down upon dilitanti of all descriptions with contempt, like most of his countrymen. But it appears that he has no stimulating quality but ambition; and that he has done nothing but dig stupendous canals and organise his Army and Navy!—Nothing but this!—And is it possible he has got no collection of butterflies at Cairo?—and that he knows nothing of the writings of Jeremy Bentham, and the greatest happiness principle?—Surely the talents of the man must have been wonderfully overrated like those of Peter the Great and the Baron's own countryman Frederick, neither of whom, we believe, knew, or cared, much about the "greatest happiness principle" or with the exception of establishing some porcelain manufactories at Potsdam, did more than the Pacha has done.—But then the Pacha has effected his purposes with such contemptible means, and this takes away greatly from his credit; for instead of collecting round himself all the talent of Europe, he has formed an Army which has been victorious in every direction only by means of "an old colonel of Napoleon's—a man universally despised" for what reason, unless it be his having organised a fine body of troops, it is difficult to imagine, as the Baron has not condescended to inform us.—Then again the Navy. The Pacha, it appears, has had only the master of an English merchant ship, and (it is amusing to see with what scorn it is stated) an *ex-midshipman* to bring this branch of his service into its present admirable state! The most contemptible thing, however, which he has done, according to the Baron, is to form a Medical establishment, under the superintendence of a Frenchman named Clot Beg, who went to Egypt, if we are to take the Baron's word for it, with the "intention of cleaning boots and brushing coats." But in whom the Pacha's "penetrating eye" appears to have discovered a singular fitness for surgery. This man has not deceived the expectations that were formed of him, for the Baron allows, that after having "cut off a great many legs and arms" he has become "a good operator." It will perhaps surprise the Baron to learn that this Clot Beg, who he sneers at, has since gone to England upon the business of the Pacha, and has been discovered to be a most scientific man! The Pacha's "penetrating eye" appears therefore, again to have performed wonders, although the possessor has "no idea of the words science and arts"—and butterflies.

In concluding this short notice of Baron von Hugel's tirade of abuse against the Government of a man whose character he is evidently unable to appreciate, we shall merely observe, to use his own words, that "Mahomed Ali probably understands the true state of Egypt much better than those around him," and we will add, than any body else, always excepting the Baron himself, who doubtless could give him a few hints upon the subject of Government, if he would but take them, that would raise him to

very pinnacle of glory. The Pacha however, has probably long foreseen the struggle in which he has just been engaged, and has perhaps been preparing himself for it somewhat at the expense, of the "happiness of the people." But the question is, could he have got through it without resorting to the measures he has taken? and if not, how absurd it is to expect the moderation of an established Govt. from a man who has had all his life to fight for his existence. Now however, that he has secured his authority, it remains to be seen if his powerful mind do not embrace the improvements of more civilized governments, in peace as well as in war. And if we may judge by the humane policy which he has displayed throughout the progress of his army in Syria, and his generous treatment of his prisoners (so contrary to the Turkish custom) it is not unwarrantable we think, to expect that as soon as circumstances admit a change will take place for the better in the internal administration of his Govt. as well as in its other branches.

## *DELHI.*

## ORIGINAL ESSAYS.

### MAHA RAJA RUNJEET SINGH, SUKURCHUKEA.

The Ruler of Lahore is called Sukerchuckea by his countrymen, from the name of the village in which his Grandfather, a Sansee Jât of the humblest origin, was born about the year 1730. This person, whose name was Churrat Sing, amidst the anarchy which prevailed in the Punjaub, joined a band of professed robbers, in 1755: and soon rose by his courage and talents to be a formidable commander of outlaws. Having entered into a league with the Zeemendars of Goorjarwalla, a fortified place within thirty miles from Lahore, he made it his head quarters and the depository of his Booty. 1761 Khawjah Obyd, the Governor, placed in Lahore by Ahmud Shah Abdalli, marched with a force to chastise Churrut Singh, and the Seik confederacies with which he generally acted in concert: The whole of their predatory associations under various leaders who afterwards became the founders of Chiefships, did not then exceed 300 men. The Afghan Governor appeared before the mud work of Goorjarwalla, but instead of commencing operations, he suffered himself to be artfully inveigled into a negociation which led to his ruin. A considerable part of his army, consisting of Punjabees who were brought over to the interest of the robbers, raising a false alarm by pretending that the Camp was attacked at night, made the Mussulmans take to flight, and leave their commander to escape almost alone. The whole of his baggage, equipage, and treasure, being thus abandoned, was seized, and a considerable district ever afterwards remained in possession of the captors. Churrut Sing now undisturbed by the Afghans, began that system of unscrupulous acquisition which has distinguished all his descendants. Force, fraud, and stratagem, gained him considerable territory, part of which he bestowed on relatives and favourite followers, on the tenure of Military service. Having interfered between the Raja of Jummoo and his son, with the view of helping himself to their country while affecting to adjust their differences, he was killed by the bursting of a matchlock in the 45th year of his age. Churrut Sing, born a common peasant, and living a robber, left his family when he died a territory which yielded 3 lacs of Rupees a year. He was succeeded by his only son Maha Singh, a boy ten years old, destined to imitate his predecessor with rather less principle and equal success. In his 17th year he murdered the mother that bore him, assumed the direction of affairs, committed spoliation on all his weaker neighbours, and died, while besieging, with intent to plunder, his brother-in-law, at the age of 27, in 1792.

Runjeet Sing, the son of Maha, was born in 1780. and succeeded his father in his twelfth year. The appointed guardians of his minority were the young chieftain's mother, and Sudda Kour, a lady of greater note, to whose daughter he was married. This mother-in-law of the greatest of the Seiks, was left a widow in her youth, and afterwards, it is said, encouraging an incestuous passion in the father of her deceased husband, she persuaded him to bequeath her the chiefship of the Gunneyah confederacy, one of the associations possessed of land, which she actually succeeded to on the old man's death. Runjeet, who had lost an eye by the small pox when an infant, was according to the barbarous practice in India, allowed to grow up wholly uneducated, lest he should be soon capable of superseding the administrators of his affairs, and disposed to demand too exact an account of the management of them in his nonage. But in spite of this precaution, he got unruly at seventeen, and leaguing with Sudda Kour, dismissed his mother with all her ministers from authority. It is to the counsels, intrigues, and military cooperation of his new coadjutress that he owes the acquisition of his present capital, the seat of all his greatness. The old thieves' den of Goorjarwallah being still the principal city of the house of Sukerchuckea, Lahore was held conjointly by three Seikh Surdars, whom Sudda Kour discovered to be disunited and unprepared to make any great resistance to an enemy. After sowing further dissension among them, and corrupting their officers to gain admittance, she added her own forces to Runjeet's and advanced unexpectedly on the city by night. It was entered and occupied before morning, partly by consent of the Chiefs who stipulated for the retention of some of their own lands in Jaggeer. This event took place in 1799. Runjeet having now acquired a commanding position in the Punjaub, proceeded in the hereditary spirit of his grandfather's profession, to acquire new territory by every means which cunning, deceit, and open violence could command. A few instances, cited at random, will best shew the practice which he continues to this day. Patankote was a little principality adjoining the Kungra Hill, held by a chief whose sons complained of their father's treatment of them. The Ruler of Lahore, paying the family a visit with his army put an end to domestic feuds by giving them a village in Jaggeer, and annexing the rest of their lands to his own dominions. The Hill Raja of Noorpoor, having omitted on one occasion to pay his respects to the Seikh, went afterwards to apologize, was seized, compelled to conduct men to his hoards and jewels, and deprived of every acre which he owned, on manfully refusing to sanction the spoliation by accepting a pittance. Two Sirdars, of the Seikh family called Ramghurhia, being with their troops in the neighbourhood of Runjeet's camp, rashly went in a friendly way to see him. With the most shameless perfidy he threw them into confinement, and they were compelled, under threats of death, to march with his guards, and order the garrisons of their own forts to surrender a tract of country worth five lacs a year, to the treacherous enemy. Besides, whenever a person of consideration died, he has been in the habit, after giving the children or other relatives a paltry pension, to consider himself heir to the whole property of the deceased; and it would be difficult any where among men emerged primitive barbarism, to point out so wide a scene of domestic ruin and confiscation as the Punjaub has exhibited during these last thirty five years.

Illiterate and unrefined in every respect, the relaxations of Runjeet Singh from plotting aggressions more or less extensive, consisted in sensual indulgencies which appeared excessive even among his countrymen whose habits verge on brutality.

Non dico horrendum rabiem——
Mille Puellarum Mille Puerorum furores.

There is no hilarity or sociability promoted as European topers may suppose, in his mode of drinking, which is a solitary indulgence in Ratifia, plain Brandy, or stronger spirits, generally valued in proportion to their efficacy in depriving him of his senses. The Padsha, or King, as he now began to call himself, suspected one of his Queens, the daughter of Sudda Kour, of following the eminent example of infidelity which he had set to his family, and an anecdote on the subject affords an illustrative sample of Seikh delicacy. About nine months after their final separation, the lady apprized her husband that she had been happily delivered of twin boys: one of whom is Sheer Singh the present Governor of Cashmere, and the other is called Tara Singh. Runjeet seems to have taken no notice of the event at the time but some years afterward, when dandling the children on his knee, in full durbar, he treated the courtiers with such pleasantries as these: "It was a pretty trick of the old Kour to make my wife call these boys mine: why look you, this little fellow is the son of a Weaver, and this, one of a Carpenter, who would take them for princes *(Shazadah)*?" Such is the pedigree universally ascribed to the young men, whom their Sovereign does not acknowledge though he allows them to cherish all the pretensions of being his offspring. Some years ago having no longer need of Sudda Kour he repaid her for the "trick" by making the old lady transfer half her property to the supposititious youths, and surrender the rest to himself. Kurruk Singh a son by another Ranee, and elder than the foregoing, of an imbecile character is the heir apparent of Lahore.

No domestic occurrences ever diverted Runjeet Sing from his schemes of aggrandizement. Having become a master of almost all the petty states to the North of the Settledge, he was preparing to dispossess the Seikh Chiefs between that river and the Jumna, in the same manner, when they took alarm and solicited the protection of the British Government in 1808. Mr. (the present Sir Charles) Metcalfe was appointed Envoy on this occasion to negotiate with the Sovereign of the Punjaub. The treaty which he finally concluded having been substantially respected by both parties ever since, is still in force. Its principal stipulations, fixing the river Settledge as the boundary between the two powers provided for the security of the states to the south of it under the British Government, and the co-operation of Runjeet Sing against any European enemy who should invade India through his dominions. But as the King of the Seikhs once candidly told a Raja, reproaching him for his ruin by perfidy, that treaties and promises of Chiefs of the times were kept or broken according to the convenience of the stronger party, we need not expect any romantic sacrifice to good faith on his side. It was not, however, without much evasion and long procrastination that the conqueror of so many small principalities consented to forego his designs, openly claiming a right to extend his authority to the Jumna, which he said, would make a much better line of frontier than what the Envoy insisted on. The Mission was first received at Kusoor, with every exterior mark of respect, but negociations had scarcely begun when the Maharaja struck his tents and marched at the head of an army across the Settledge, whence taking possession of Fureedkote and other districts, he proceeded as far as Umballa, which he likewise reduced. Meanwhile Mr. Metcalfe having protested strongly against these aggressions, had refused to accompany the expedition and in consequence of the events which followed, a detachment under Colonel Ochterlony was sent to support the invaded states. It advanced and finally established the cantonment of Loodiana, as Runjeet, retreating before it, recrossed the Settledge, gave up these recent conquests, and agreed to the terms already mentioned which the Envoy required him to subscribe to. Whilst Mr. Metcalfe and his Escort remained at Amritsir, our Mussulman se-

poys, not being prohibited it appears, made a Tazea for the usual celebration of the Mohurrum, a ceremony interdicted in the Punjaub, and held in abborrence by all the bigoted followers of Guroo Govind. One Phoola Sing, a leader of Acalis or, Immortals, a sort of Knight Templars among the Sikhs, attempted at the head of his band, to cut up the party in a night attack. Captain, (now Lieut-Colonel) Ferguson was severely wounded, and several of the men killed, but the assailants were fairly repulsed and driven into the town. Runjeet Singh made a decent shew of regret for this outrage, which it is now believed that he was not accessory to, although at the time many considered it an experiment made at his instigation to try the mettle of disciplined troops. He is known afterwards to have upbraided Phoola Singh for bringing disgrace on his country by attacking an Ambassador, and then tarnishing its martial reputation by suffering a handful of foreigners to defeat the sacred defenders of Amritsir.

Those who believe in the transmutation of species, may perceive analogies between the Feline and Latrocinious families: but whether the descendant of cats can ever expand into the majestic lion or not, it is certain that the house of Sukerchuckea began with a Robber of small dimensions, whose grandson, gradually enlarging, has now attained to the magnitude of a King, and will hereafter figure in that station. I shall therefore endeavour in a future number to sketch his proceedings on the regal scale, and to shew him subjugating kingdoms as his ancestor, and appropriated goods and chattels.

## *CEYLON.*

*To the Editor of the Colombo Journal.*

SIR,—Having been twice in Egypt, and having traversad it from one end to the other, I can testify that the "Picture of Egypt" by Mr Bosquet Deschamps, which appeared in your Journal of the 12th, far from having overdrawn the desolate state of that country, or misrepresented the detestable system of the Government of Mehemed Ali, has given but a faint sketch though a true one in all its parts, and tolerably correct its details. *

Mehemed Ali has no stimulating quality but ambition; he has not the least idea of the sense of the words, Science and Arts, and still less of what is meant by the term "happiness of the people." As to the first, all that he has done, as Mr. Deschamps well says, has reference to his army or navy. In the former he has an ex-colonel of Napoleon, Soliman Bey, a man universally despised and without any fixed employment—he has an Italian as chief engineer—and an Englishman as director of the Congreve rockets. These are the only Europeans who hold a rank in his army; but every regiment has its Instructor, who are, for the greater part, outcasts from every country of Europe: they hold no command, and do not even leave Egypt, if the regiment to which they are attached, goes against the enemy. In the Egyptain Navy + there are two Englishmen, (their names I do not recollect) one formerly master of a merchant vessel, and who now commands the frigate *La Giafferia*, the other an ex-Midshipman, who is a Lieutenant in another vessel; M. Houssard, formerly Captain of a man-of-war, commands the *Mehemed Ali*, a 120 gun ship—all the other officers are Turks or Arabs. In the army officers can only attain the rank of Bey (Colonel). Turks and descendants of the old Mamelukes may reach the title of Bey and the command of Brigadier-generals; the Pasha has reserved for his own family and for Turks only, the higher ranks of the army. Osman Bey, who never had an idea of sailing, but who is an officer who earned distinction during the wars in Candia, commands the Navy—but M. Houssard has the real direction of it. Cloth Bey, a Frenchman, is Superintendent of the Medical department; this officer arrived in Egypt with the more humble intention of cleaning boots and brushing coats; it was proposed to him to become a surgeon—he accepted the offer, but fairly owned his ignorance of the profession; he has since, out of so many legs and arms that he is now a good operator—he is otherwise a worthy man but utterly unacquainted with the science of medicine.

As to fabrics and manufactures, they are scarcely worth mentioning, with the exception of such as have reference to the army; there is a miserable establishment for husking rice, one for spinning cotton in the Delta, and one for making sugar in Upper Egypt, all belonging to the Pasha, and these constitute the immense improvements in this particular branch. There are perhaps one or two other establishments, for example, one for grinding coffee, but it would be truly ridiculous to class any of these under the head of scientific improvements. They are so many institutions in which men who have committed no fault are compelled to execute forced labour.

The Mahmudian canal, dug by Mehemed Ali, and named in honor of the Sultan, has been cited as one of the proofs of the vast conceptions of the "Great Pasha." This canal joins the Port of Alexandria to the Nile, and is from 30 to 40 miles long (I am not certain as to the exact distance), but through some blunder in the construction, it is only navigable during the innundations—but hear in what manner it was dug? 200,000 persons, men, women, and children, there in flocks like sheep; not a was provided for them—and the order was complied with by working with hands and nails—not a loaf of bread was given them—it is calculated that 30,000 souls died at this work—but the canal was finished in 9 months.

As to the revenues of Egypt, no person is able to calculate them. Sole proprietor of every thing that is produced in his dominions. the Pasha is also the only merchant. I think, however, that the revenues of the Pasha, including Kordofan, part of Darfoure, Sennaar, Dongola, and Djedda, amount to from two to three millions sterling. His finances are notwithstanding in a deplorable state—An army of 70,000 men out of a population of two millions, the construction of ships of war, and the replacing of those which were destroyed at Navarin, the immense salaries of some of his agents, and the ruinous speculations which some of the adventurers around him have induced him to make, are the principle causes of the low condition of his treasury. I may give as an instance that the pay of his nister of War, Mahomoud Bey, is £20,000 a year.

Mehemed Ali is a man of talent, who disdains to be controlled on influenced by any person. He understands the true state of Egypt much better than those around him. Without education, as all the Turks are, he does not even know how to read or write, but his penetrating eye supplies the defects he labours under, and he exercises not only despotic authority, but has a moral superiority over those who are about his person. Age, which usually destroys the activity of man, seems to have increased his; and during my stay in Egypt (1831 and 1832), at the age of 74 years, he travelled often in a single day, on a dromedary, from Cairo to Alexandria.

A country so fertile as Egypt, yielding every thing necessary for the maintenance of its inhabitants, and being at the same time so near to Europe, as to furnish with the greatest facility, the productions of warmer countries—having a navigable river to the immense extent of 1800 miles—and stretching from the tropics to the Mediterranean—Egypt, with all these advantages, cannot for any length of time be poor. A few years of good government should open to it an inexhaustible mine of riches, but there is no doubt that at this moment it is one of the poorest countries on the face of the earth, and its mild, miserable, and resigned population are among the most oppressed and miserable beings in existence. When we contemplate a people whose only necessary clothing is a blue shirt—enjoying the benefits of a delightful climate—always lively, even when pressed by the hard hand of famine—we are induced into the error of believeing that our sentiments of pity are awakened by a misapplied idea of European education and comfort, and we are almost inclined at last to think that a man in a miserable hut in Egypt and labouring under what appears the pressure of extreme want, may be in reality as happy, or even more so, than the European surrounded with his necessaries and luxuries. But when a person has travelled, as I have done with a wish to see and examine when he has been the eye witness of striking scenes of horror and misery, his mind must return to its first impressions, and he must inevitably hope that Heaven has in store better days for Egypt!

But what are the future prospects of this country? What are its chances of amelioration? The jealousy of the Cabinets of Europe prevents Egypt from becoming a dependency of any of the great Powers, and even were that not the case, its revenues, would hardly suffice to maintain an expensive constituted authority, although its population might be protected from the arbitrary system which now oppresses them. Egypt will therefore either again become a possession of Turkey, or it will be the recompense of the military reputation of the Pasha's step-son, Ibrahim, who, without the talents of Mehemed Ali, has maintained to his present age of 50, that inclination to cruelty which his step-father has long since abandoned,

I am, Sir, your very faithful Servant,
*Point de Galle, June* 15, 1833. CH. VON HUGE

* This pamphlet appears to have been written under the influence of a fear, so common at present in all Asia Minor, of becoming at no distant period subjected to the paternal authority of the Pasha of Egypt.

+ The Navy consisted in 1832 of the following... the *Mehemed Ali* of 120 guns, *The Grand Pa*... the stocks, and 7 or 8 frigates and... whole there are 27 sail. All t... ception of a few, were... French ship builder, nam... has given the title of... but are commanded... ignorant Arabs, w... by the application...

## *EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.*

### HOUSE OF COMMONS,—MARCH 27.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

It was agreed after some discussion that, owing to the lateness of the hour (half-past 11 o'clock) only the first vote should be proposed that evening and that the Secretary at War should confine himself to his general statement.

Sir J. HOBHOUSE began by declaring that the house would be much disappointed if they expected from him such a flourishing statement as that submitted the other evening with respect to our naval expenditure by the right hon. the First Lord of the Admiralty. He could promise no such reduction in the amount of the army expenditure, taking average up to the accession of the present administration to office. Indeed, he could only say what he had stated last year, that owing to the system of gradual reduction which had been acted upon by his immediate predecessors in the War office, it was actually impossible for any Secretary at War, however anxious, to effect in any individual year such a reduction in the very important department of the public expenditure intrusted to him, as would appear in the light of a flourishing statement. (Hear.) Then, there was another reason why the Secretary ... such a reduction ... ever...

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ever, his good fortune to be able to state, that in spite of the praiseworthy endeavours of his predecessors, the estimates which he held in hand were [illegible] most every item—effective and non-effective—a amount than last year, giving a total decrease [illegible]our of his year of 206,000*l.* (Hear, hear.) [illegible]uld appear obvious to hon. members who [illegible] the trouble of examining for themselves the comparative abstract" which was appended to the estimates, in which every item spoke for itself beyond the possibility of mystification or deception. (Hear.) He would not trouble the committee by dwelling on each estimate in detail, and would confine himself to the general result or balance of the whole. It would first appear that the reduction in the effective service was not very considerable as compared with last year. Why was that? Simple because the number of men—to the providing for whom his official functions were limited—was not less than last year. It was but fair, also, to permit him to add, that there was not one of those estimates which hitherto used to provoke discussion, as most obnoxious to censure, that had not, within the last few years, either entirely disappeared from the votes, or been so much amended as to be no longer open to cavil. Such, for example, was the vote relating to Sandhurst College, and the waggon train, the army medical department, the inspector of clothing, the permanent quarter-master, surveyor, and other similar offices. Then there was the great and most deserving of praise reductions and improvements effected by his immediate predecessor in the half-pay and dead weight, which could hardly be credited by those not acquainted with the amount of the obstacles in the way of such an efficient reduction. These facts it was but fair to take into account when canvassing his merits with those of his predecessor, so far as the reduction effected by both was the comparative test. When he informed the committee that the average annual reduction in the army expenditure had been for some years not less than 276,000*l.*, he was sure they would see that it was not easy for him to propose considerable reductions in this single year. (Hear, hear.) Having made these general observations, he would proceed to state the amount of the expenditure which he called upon the house to sanction. The number of men for effective service, for the year 1833-34, was 78,503; which with 17,288 employed in India, and troops and companies at home, gave a total of 95,791 rank and file for the year. The force was thus distributed:—In Great Britain, 21,783; in Ireland, 23,135; abroad, exclusive of India, 28,706; making up, with the veteran companies, the East India force, West India regiments, and colonial corps, 95,791 men for the entire service. Before he proceeded further he begged leave to call attention to the observations, or rather, comparisons, which some hon. members were in the habit of indulging in, between the feeble force kept up in 1792 and that now maintained as necessary to the exigencies of the country. It would be seen, unless he much deceived himself, that if the increase in the population and territories subject to the British Crown that had taken place since 1792 were duly considered, that even our present force, naval and military, had not increased in an undue proportion. In 1792 our military force consisted of 48,948 rank and file: in 1833 our force was as he had stated, 95,791 men. (Hear.) Then, whence the increase? It was not in our colonial force, for that had increased since 1792 only from 15,108 to 16,058 men. The first ground of this increase was the increased consequence of New South Wales, which required 1,788 men additional; the next was the increased force required by the sate of Jamaica; in Canada there was 225 men less than in 1792; in the other North American colonies—Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Cape Breton, and Newfoundland—there was a small increase; in Gibraltar the increase was 1,025. In the whole old colonies, however, exclusive of India, there were actually nine men less than in 1792. (Hear, hear.) The increase was wholly owing to the new colonies which had come into our possession since 1792, and to the great increase which had taken place in the entire British population. These new colonies absorbed not less than 16,679 additional to our colonial force in 1792. But then it should be recollected that our Indian empire, which in 1792 only required 9,513 men for its entire rule and protection, and which now required 17,288 for the protection of British interests, included a population of not less than 89,577,000 souls, and extended over a surface of not less than 1,128,000 square miles. On the face of it such increased empire required an increased military force to protect it. Then there was the increase in Great Britain of 6,000 men in round numbers since 1792 ("Hear, hear," from Mr. Hume and Mr. Attwood); and Ireland, in which there was an increase of 13,151 men. (Loud cries of "Hear," from some Irish members.) There was the increase of population in Great Britain and Ireland to be taken into account (he might observe, in passing, that the population of the new colonies was equal to almost a fraction) to that of our old colonies, that, is those in our possession in 1792,—since 1792, from 13,882,000 to 24,271,863, it present amount. (Hear.) These facts warranted his maintaining that the complaints of hon. members of our military force having increased in a most undue proportion since 1792 were not well-founded. (Hear.) But then it had been argued by Colonel Harris and others, that though this was true, comparing the population with the amount of our force —yet that if a better system of management were adopted, a much smaller force would be fully adequate to the wants of the public service. It had been said, for example, that the depot system admitted of much improvement, and that there was no necessity for keeping so many men idle at home. It was true that the relative number of men at home was greater now than in 1792 (hear;) that while there were then but 62 at home for every 100 on foreign service, we had now 75 for every 100 (hear); but he could assure the committee that the depot and relieving systems now in force, were those which the best judges, civil and military, including the Duke of Wellington, Lord Palmerston, Sir H. Hardinge, Sir A. Parnell, and Sir A. Gordon, had declared as the most economical and the most efficient. But for these depots, which some hon. members objected to, the pension list would be very considerably augmented, and they afforded the most facile means of effecting reductions [illegible] reductions were practicable [illegible]nple,—say a regiment [illegible]ce sick. If there was [illegible] accommodate them, many [illegible] the pension list, others sent to [illegible] by affording them the means of [illegible]t in the depots, they were recover- [illegible]e again sent out on foreign ac- [illegible]hese depots were also advantage- [illegible]ting so many points throughout [illegible] in which the government could avail [illegible]s of small but compact bodies of men [illegible] the public service, and, as he had stated, affording the safest, most practicable, and economical means of reducing the public force without impairing its efficiency. He could assure them that the mode of reduction pursued in 1821 and 1822 had been productive of serious evil, and that it would be many years ere the dead weight had recovered from its consequences. (Hear, hear.) Were hon. members aware of the great difference of opinion which obtained in the Finance Committee respecting the amount of saving that might be made in this branch of the public expenditure—that, in fact, the majority agreed that any further safe reduction under the existing circumstances of the country, was hardly practicable, and that, after the fullest calculations and detailed inquiries, a right hon. baronet could only suggest a reduction to the amount of 6,000*l.* (Hear, hear.) It was, he trusted, hardly necessary for him to say that the present administration would be glad to make still further reductions, and that he should be glad to propose lower estimates than those which were in force on his accession to office. They found, however, that consistent with the exigencies of the public service, they could not propose such reductions as they could wish, and that in point of fact the number of men effective and non-effective would be more in this year's estimate than in that of 1830. The difference would be 7,689 rank and file on the foreign service, and 6,695 on the home service, of which a large portion was required in Ireland. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. baronet then read a statement in order to show how this augmented force was distributed, from which it appeared that in the Mediterranean there was a diminution of 1835 in the force since 1830; in the Cape of Good Hope there was an increase of 105 men, in New South Wales an increase of 757 men, the Mauritius of 620 (he need not explain the reason); in the West Indies an increase, and in Ceylon and Canada a reduction, in the former of 292 men, in the latter of 626 men. There was a slight increase in the force employed on the coast of Africa. He thought that he had now accounted in a satisfactory manner for the excess of force which had been employed in 1833 above that employed in 1830. Now it only remained for him to explain the difference of force employed in the last year and that which it was proposed to employ in the present. We had this year 4,092 men less in Great Britain than we had last year; but he was sorry to say, that owing to the same unfortunate circumstances which existed in Jamaica, Mauritius, and elsewhere, we had 3,673 men more than we had last year. In India we had this year only 5,000 men. There was, however, a decrease in the amount of men employed this year when compared with the amount of men employed last year: it was, however, only a small one, for it was only 46 rank and file, and only 59 including officers. Having thus stated the amout of force which it was proposed to employ this year, he trusted that the house would not consider him as going out of his way, if he stated that he conceived that there were no circumstances in the state of the country which would justify a diminution of our military forces below the number of last year. He was sorry to say that we could not boast of complete tranquillity in our own dominions, and that the aspect of affairs abroad was not such as to justify any gentleman, however economical he might be in principle, in thinking that he would only be performing his duty in asking this year for a diminished force. Thinking it possible that some gentlemen might be led away by statements which had appeared in the public journals to the effect that there was a diminution of force in the military establishments of other nations, he trusted that the house would permit him to read from a table which he held in his hand, to mention the amount of force—which was really awful—that which was kept upby the other Powers of Europe. The most striking way, without going into details, in which that amount could be presented to the house, appeared to him to be by stating the proportion of armed men in the principal states of Europe to the amount of their population and of their revenue:—In Great Britain, of effective force there was one armed man to every 200 of the population; and the proportion of our military expenditure to the whole revenue was as one to six. In France there was one armed man to every 77 of the population, and the military expenditure was one fourth of the whole revenue. In Austria there was one armed man to every 116 of the population, and the military expenditure was two-thirds of the whole revenue. In Russia there was one armed man to every 67 of the population, and the military expenditure was one-third of the whole revenue. In Prussia there was one armed man in every 115, and the military expenditure was one-half of the whole revenue. In Spain there was one armed man to every 273 of the population, and there the military expenditure was one-third of the general revenue. In Holland there was one armed man to every 43 of the population, and the military expenditure was four-fifths of the whole revenue. In Belgium there was one armed man to every 42 of the population, and the military expenditure was one-half of the whole revenue. In Bavaria, which was one of the minor states, there was one armed man to every 95 of the population, and the military expenditure was one-fourth of the whole revenue. In the United States of America, where there were 1,411,000 men in arms as militia, there were only 6,800 regular troops. In that country the regular soldier was to the whole population as 1 to 4,926, and there the military expenditure was one-fourth of the whole revenue, it being only one-sixth in England. He had stated the result of his inquiries, and would have stated the details on which they were founded, had he not been afraid of wearying the house. (Cries of "Read.") In obedience to the wish of the house, he would state that it appeared from a report of the Minister of War, there were in France ——— men in arms. [We did not hear the number, and Sir J. Hobhouse has not favoured us with a copy of his table.] In Austria there were 280,000 men; in Russia 862,000; in Prussia 117,000; In Spain 87,000; in Holland 57,000; in Belgium 83,600; in Bavaria 45,000; in the United States 1,411,000 militia, and 6,800 regular troops. He hoped that he had not tired the house by entering into these details. ("No, no.") He did not mean by referring to this table to insist that this country with its insular position, was to regulate its military establishments on the model of other nations; but he did mean to say, that it ought to hold itself, comparatively speaking, in the same defensive state. He trusted that the first act of a reformed Parliament would not be an act that was calculated to paralyze the military service of the country. He trusted, that when just cause was shown, the reformed Parliament would willingly maintain that amount of force which was requisite to maintain the honour and independence of the country. If hon. gentlemen would but cast their eyes over Europe, they would see that there was no state so great or so small, or near or so remote, which had not by its armaments, some effect upon the military establishment of this country. Whether it was in Europe or in Africa, in America or in India, in the Mediterranean or in the Pacific, the slightest movement made by any power there, rendered it necessary for our military vigilance to be in full activity. In the very estimates then before the house the pretty motions of the King of the Mandingoes had swelled their amount by 500*l.* (A laugh.) He was certain that the house would not reject this vote. He could only say that if any constitutional jealousy of standing armies prevailed in former Parliaments, those who believed, as he did, that the present Parliament was the true representative of the wants and wishes of the country, might diminish in a degree those ancient suspicions and those ancient fears: for that force which it might have been inexpedient to trust to the disposal of one man or of a few men might be safely intrusted to the disposal of those who represented the feelings and held the purse of the people, and therefore those standing armies who were objected to in their former excess, when Parliament had no controul over them, were less objectionable now that they were brought fairly under the control and management of a reformed Parliament. He concluded by moving that there be employed for the service of His Majesty at home and abroad, from the 1st of April, 1833, to the 31st of March. 1834, 89,419 men.

## LORD DURHAM.

The *Standard* has expressed itself glad, and we are sincerely sorry, to announce, the retirement of Lord DURHAM from the Ministry. The joy of the *Standard* and our regret proceed from our both viewing this resignation in exactly the same light. We believe that we have to thank Lord DURHAM for the best parts of the Reform Act. We looked upon him as by far the most likely man among his colleagues to render that act effectual for the working of these practical improvements in the government and the state of society, which all honest and rational Reformers had in view when they struggled so hard and long to obtain it.

Unusual pains have been taken to make the public believe, that domestic circumstances *alone* —family griefs and personal ill health—have influenced Lord Durham to retire from a share in the government of the country. With the noble sufferer under afflictions too sacred for public intrusion, none can more truly sympathize than we do; yet, if we mistake not, the family bereavements alluded to were either not of resent occurrence, or not unexpected; and as far as personal health is concerned, Lord Durham is probably not more indisposed at present than he was some time ago. His state of health, therefore, and domestic afflictions, could scarcely have furnished the real motive for his quitting the Cabinet.

But, be this as it may, Lord DURHAM'S resignation must and will be looked upon as a bad symptom for Earl GREY'S Administration. If it had stood alone, it would not have been so much thought of: but it is impossible not to view it in connexion with the general policy of the Government since the opening of the session. There has been an evident tendency towards an union with a portion of the Conservative party—the shrewd men of office and politicians by the trade—who on their parts have manifested no indisposition to meet their old enemies half-way. A show of rather angry opposition is sometimes kept up, to be sure,—as if for the purpose of blinding the public to the approximation of parties which is really in progress all the time. Now Lord DURHAM must be a strangely altered man, if he can countenance any such underhand proceedings, or act in confidence with those who carry them on.

The Ministerial organs may asseverate the fact as earnestly as they like, or as their employers dictate, but it will be hard to persuade any man of common observation that there are not ample reasons why Lord DURHAM should give in his resignation; independently of his ill health, which, after all, would hardly prevent his attention to *the duties of the Privy Seal.* His secession may, at all events, be taken as a warning how we place too much confidence in the Ministry. It is to be feared that some of those who remain have considerably less honesty, or at any rate less firmness, than their colleague who has quitted it. He was not only straightforward and manly, but able and well-informed: he understood the position of England, in this year of grace, 1833, better than any man in the Cabinet.—*Spectator, 16th March*

## TIMES,—MARCH, 28.

Among the securities of the English market, the chief attention is occupied by India stock. A misapprehension seems to have arisen, in the first instance, among the proprietors, with respect to the real extent of the Government guarantee for the payment of the dividends, many of them imagining that it was absolute, and independent either of the value of the commercial assets of the East India Company, or of the produce of the territorial revenue of India, under the new proposed form of administration. This is clearly, however, a mistake. The proprietors will not acquire by the meditated change, nor ought it to be so, any claims on the English Government or people at large; they merely retain their share of such benefits as will remain, when the commercial monopoly has ceased, or merged in the territorial management of the directors out of their now existing sources of revenue. Those consequently, who make purchases in India stock have done so with the conviction, unless misled by the notion above referred to, that enough would be left from those sources to maintain it at least at its present value. How far such an expectation is well-founded can only be determined by a more intimate knowledge of the financial concerns of the Company than is possessed by the public at large. The price of the stock is lower, but in no material degree, than yesterday, leaving off at 220 to 221 for the account. No money bargains have taken place, the books being shut for the dividend

## WEST INDIA SLAVERY.

Government has, it appears been employed with great earnestness on the West India question. Mr. Canning's resolution, announced 8 or 9 years ago, that in all our policy relating to the West Indies one fundamental principle must be assumed,—viz., that the slaves were to be finally emancipated, and gradually prepared by considerate measures for that important change in their condition.

The state of those colonies has ever since exhibited an indefatigable struggle between the Government of the mother country, striving to make some progress towards that *euthanasia* of negro slavery which Parliament has already recognized, and the colonial interest (as it is called), which seems inclined to do nothing but on absolute and irresistible compulsion.

A large proportion of the people of England have testified much impatience at the apparent paralysis of the question thus produced. The Anti-Slavery Society and its partisans, asserting, what, indeed, is true—that the colonists will, if left to themselves, adopt only such measures as have a tendency to confirm and perpetuate their own dominion over the negro, and so to frustrate every hope of restoring him to freedom—have pressed Government, and will shortly move the Legislature, to an *immediate* abolition of slavery.

It is probable that this alternative has been forced upon Mr. Buxton and his friends by the mixed obstinacy and rashness of the colonists, who declare explicitly by their actions, if not in speech, that slavery ought to endure for ever.

But since the property in slaves has been created, sedulously encouraged, and formally acknowledged by the legislation of this country for above two centuries, and since the produce of the capital so acquired has long been made a lucrative source of revenue to the public, thus affixing a solemn seal to the title-deeds of the planters, a question has arisen how far, in common justice, the country can now fling the vicious nature of the property which it created for its own ends, and has uniformly converted to its own profit, in the face of the parties whom it authorized to expend their money on the faith of such authority, and tell them, that because it repents of having made such wicked laws, they, the planters, shall expiate the crime of Parliament, by their own irretrievable ruin? This question, we may say, has arisen, and has been argued variously. One set of individuals affirm that "man can never "have a property in man, and that therefore "the planters, possessing no property in their "slaves, are entitled to no indemnity." Another class allege that the proper course of policy would be, first to get rid of the disgrace of negro slavery, and then to talk of compensation. A third description of persons are for making a fair estimate of the value of West India property, setting free the slaves, and remunerating the owners for their loss of fortune.

Some little time ago we heard that this last project was likely to be realized, that a large sum was to be raised for a compensation to the planters, and the negroes at once emancipated.

Had both Parliament and the West India planters agreed upon the terms for carrying this proposal into execution, it must have appeared to any reasonable mind that one paramount interest had been miscalculated or wholly overlooked, namely, that of the unfortunate negroes. The improvement and comfort of that race call, assuredly, for some concomitant at least, if not preliminary, regulations, as well to guard them against the effects of childish ignorance and habitual helplessness upon their conduct after such an immense and sudden change, as to secure them the means of regular subsistence, since it must thenceforth be optional with their former masters to tolerate them as sojourners on their several estates or to expel them bodily.

Another important consideration in the present financial condition of the country, the means of raising a sufficient sum for the compensation of the planters is surrounded with at least equal difficulty. The West Indians are said to estimate their property in slaves at an amount of nearly 50,000,000*l.*, and point to the only instance in which Government have attempted an emancipation of slaves by purchase from the proprietors, in the island of St. Helena, as the rule to be observed in future transactions of the same description. The anti-slavery party are said to talk of their readiness to support an advance of 15,000,000*l.* to 20,000,000*l.* to effect their great object of immediate emancipation. Is the country prepared for either course? Will the new representatives of the people, pressed as they are by their constituents to force upon the Government a large reduction of the existing taxation, be willing to vote a large loan of money, for the interest of which additional taxes must be imposed?

These difficulties force us to the consideration of some other means by which it may be possible to accomplish the ultimate extinction of slavery, and to provide against the abuses of the system, whilst the necessities of the case compel us to endure a continuance of it, without calling upon the public for pecuniary sacrifices for the indemnity of the planter.

Amongst other schemes which have been mentioned to us for this purpose, is one for passing an act in the present session declaring every child to be born thereafter, or even from the period of the accession of his present Majesty, free, and to provide that the proprietor of the mother of the children shall maintain them till the age of ten years, on condition of their being apprenticed to the master, under regulations to be made by the magistrates, till they attain the age of 21, granting to the West Indians, as a compensation for this interference with their rights of property, the continuance of the exclusive advantages they now enjoy in

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the sugar market of this country for a certain number of years.

The scheme then proceeds to suggest the simultaneous issue of an Order in Council to regulate finally the condition of the existing race of slaves in the Crown colonies by the enforcement, in the first instance, of Mr. Canning's regulations, the repeal of Lord Goderich's order, the limitation of the hours of labour, so as not to amount to more in the whole than those required by that order, and, finally, (the greatest improvement of all), the interposition of the magistrates between the master and the slave in all cases of punishment —the absolute power of the master to cease, in fact, altogether. To these regulations it is proposed to add the provision, that no slave now attached, or to be thereafter attached, to an estate, shall be sold separately from the state, and that no slave shall under any circumstances be henceforward separated from his family.—*Times, March* 23.

## STEAM NAVIGATION TO INDIA.

The plan for expediting the passage to our possessions in the East Indies, by means of steam navigation, having recently attracted considerable attention, we conceive that our readers will peruse with interest the evidence given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the affairs of the East India Company, by Thomas Love Peacock, Esq., Senior Assistant Examiner in the India House, a gentleman thoroughly conversant with the subject, and capable of furnishing the best information upon it.

Have you turned your attention particularly to the subject of steam navigation in India, and between India and Europe?—I have.

Will you state your opinion of the route by the Cape of Good Hope, especially with reference to the voyage of the Enterprise?—I will state what the Enterprise did. She left the land on the 16th of August, 1825, reached Calcutta on the 7th December; that was 113 days, of which she was 103 actually under weigh, from the land to Diamond Harbour. She used both sail and steam. The greatest run by sail in 24 hours was 211 miles, the least 39: the greatest by steam, assisted by sail, 225; the least 80: the greatest heat in the engine-room during the voyage was 105 degrees, the air at the same time being 84½ degrees. The total distance was 13,700 miles, and the consumption 580 chaldrons of coal, being 9 chaldrons per day for 64 days: the rest being under sail.

What was the power of the engines?—120 horse power. The speed of the engines in calm weather was eight knots an hour, the log giving nine from the wash of the paddles. The speed of this voyage was not considered sufficient to warrant the expense and the trouble; and it does not appear that any very much better results can be expected, on account of the difficulty of getting relays of coal, and the time that must be wasted in getting them. There was, however, a proposal to go by this route in 60 days, in a vessel of 1000 tons burthen, to carry 800 tons of coal, and not making stop between London and Calcutta: that is the greatest speed that has been proposed.

Can you offer any opinion as to the party who made the proposal?—I forget who it was, but think it was Mr. Perkins. I should think the accomplishment of the proposals not very probable. The only advantage that it seems to me can be got from steam round the Cape is, to have steam engines of about 30 horse power fitted into sailing vessels, to cross the variable winds.

How many steam vessels would be necessary to accomplish the communication with India upon that plan?—I cannot state that with any certainty. I think that route is not advisable by steam. Mr. Waghorn was very confident he could do it in 80 days and Mr. Perkins, I think, in 60. It would be necessary, in the case supposed, of fitting sailing vessels with small engines to cross the variable winds, to have reeng paddles, fastened with chains instead of bars, which could be folded up flat; that could be done in a few minutes, and has been done in some of the American vessels.

Will you state your opinion of the route from Bombay to the Red Sea and Alexandria?—The great objection to that route is the enormous expense of it. The coals burnt in the Red Sea coast about 7*l.* per ton. Every vessel that is employed will coast 25,000*l.* a year at the very lowest calculation, and four are required on each side of the Isthmus.

Do you suppose the coal, in that case, to be sent from England?—I have calculated almost every manner in which it can be sent. Sent from Alexandria to Suez, or from England direct to the Red Sea, or from Bombay to the Red Sea, it comes to very nearly the same.

Do you take into the account the supply of coals from New South Wales, which is now abundant?—No, I do not.

Can you get any supply of coals from the Persian Gulf?—I should think not.

Do you not consider that the steam-boats could be of great use in the navigation of the Red Sea?—They are almost the only vessel that can navigate the Red Sea with any certainty, in any reasonable time; they are the only vessels that can keep the middle of the sea, and the sides are full of coral reefs.

Will you state what, in your opinion, could be done to facilitate the transit of goods and passengers ever the Isthmus of Suez to Cairo and from Cairo to Alexandria?—It will be as well first to state what has been done by the Hugh Lindsay steam-boat. She has made three voyages from Bombay to the Red Sea. The first, in March and April, 1830, occupied 33 days to Suez, 20 days working and 13 at anchor, the distance being 3000 miles by the nearest admeasurement and increased by going out of her way for coals: the return was 37 days, 20 days working and 17 at anchor. The second was to Cosier, not to Suez, from the 5th to the 27th of December, 1830; the actual distance she went over was 2830 miles in 17 days, and 5 days detained at anchor, getting in coals principally. The third was from Bombay, in January this year (1832), but we have not the day—that was to Suez. We know that she arrived there on the 4th of February, but we do not know what day she left Bombay; I believe it was in the first week in January. She is not considered one of the best possible boats for the purpose, being rather a heavy sailer, and carrying only five days coal—she has 120 horse-power. With respect to the transit of the Isthmus, it is 70 miles from Suez to Cairo which is usually performed on camels; from Cairo to Alexandria by land, 140 miles by the nearest route; 250 miles by the river, and round by Rosetta. There is a canal, but it is not in general use at present; It is not in good order—it is not available for steam vessels. From Cosier to Suez, by sea, is about 300 miles; from Ghenna to Cairo which is the parallel part of the Nile, is about 450. The land journey from Cosier to Ghenna is 120 miles. The north wind blows down the Gulf of Suez ten months out of the twelve all the months except December and January, which makes it advisable rather to go by Cosier. At the mouth of the Red Sea, the winds blow from the south-east from October to June, and from the north-west chiefly in the other months. At Socotra, from October to May, the winds are east, and from May to October, west. The port that was most used by the Romans was Berenice; this is 200 miles from the Nile, but it is said to be still the best port in the Red Sea, thought it is not used—it is entirely deserted. That route would give the advantage of reaching the Nile above Thebes, which would be an attraction to passengers.

Is there any town at Berenice?—No, there are some ruins. When the French were in Egypt, they surveyed the old canal from Suez to the Nile, and they calculated the expense of reconstructing it. They thought it would be better, in consequence of the great shallowness of the Mediterranean north of Suez, to reconstruct the canal from Suez to the Nile, to deepen the bed of the river, and to reconstruct the canals of Cairo and Alexandria. They estimated that the whole expence would be, in English money, 1,200,000*l.*

Will you state what you know as to the practicability of reopening the canal directly across from Suez to the Mediterranean?—The French survey gave the level of the Red Sea at high water thirty feet and half above the Mediterranean; the low water, twenty-five feet above the Mediterranean.

That would not require above four or five locks?—Four locks, perhaps.

What is the nature of the soil?—It is almost all sand. The sand does not drive on that side of Egypt as it does on the side of the Lybian Desert, as I am informed.

Is not the bed of the old canal remaining!—A great peal of it. There are in one place twenty-five miles of continuous water, called the Basin of the Bitter Lakes.

Can you state the whole distance across the Isthmus in the direction of the old canal?—One hundred miles, I think, as nearly as possible, from Suez to Pelusiam.

Have you seen any estimate of the expense of completing the old canal?—I do not recollect any separate calculation of it; but I suppose, in proportion to the expense I have stated, about 700,000*l.*

Are you aware what was the reason of the French preferring the direction of Suez and the Nile to the bed of the old canal?—Yes; because the Mediterranean is so shallow near the coast; but they thought at the same time that they might keep up a perpetual stream from the Red Sea to scour a channel. This cannal, which existed in the time of the Ptolemies, had of course, no locks, as the use of them was not then known; it was available only when the water of the Nile was as high as that of the Red Sea

You collect that from the natural features of the country?—Yes; not from any specific historical information.

The Nile rises at Cairo seventeen feet?—The French survey gave twenty five feet. When it passes to the mouth, it must almost have acquired the level of the Mediterranean.

How did it happen that the rush of water through the canal did not keep it clear?—The communication with the Red Sea was in fact with the Pelusian branch of the Nile, which is now closed. The level of the High Nile, at Cairo, as given by the French engineers, is higher than the Red Sea taking the Red Sea at Zero, the High Nile at Cairo is ten feet above it, the Low Nile fifteen feet below it, and the Mediterranean thirty feet and a half,

Are there any steam-boats on the Nile?—I believe not.

Would the navigation be favourable to the use of them?—Only for part of the year, from August to March, most probably.

Are you aware that one portion of that course has now been completed by opening from Alexandria to the Nile, the communication intended in that survey?—I know there is a canal from Alexandria to the Nile; but two years ago we asked some questions, and were informed that it was not at all available for steam boats.

We shall take an early occasion of recurring to this interesting subject.—*Naval and Military Gazette, March* 16.

## Mr. BABBAGE *on* MACHINERY *and* MANUFACTURES.

We are glad to see the appearance of a third edition in so short a time of the very useful, ingenious, and instructive work of Mr. Babbage, entitled *Economy of Machinery and Manufactures*. Of the first edition, the learned author tells us, 3,000 copies were in the hands of the public in less than two months. He does not mention the number of which the second edition consisted, but that they were all disposed of in less than three months more is fully evident from the preface to the third edition, which is dated the 11th ult. That the booksellers would allow him little quarter if he made any fictitious display of the popularity of his labours may be pretty certainly inferred from his classification of the book trade among the "combinations against the public," and from his exposure of the alleged secrets of their business, by which they would obtain out of the retail price of his first edition, amounting in all to 915*l.* 12*s.*, the sum of 362*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* while he himself, after paying for paper and printing, would receive only 306*l.* 4*s.* With that part of the subject, however, we have nothing to do, and only incidentally mention Mr. Babbage's statement to show that if his volume has already sold two large impressions, he owes his success more to the interest of its materials and to the talents of its author, than to any adventitious aid.

As we have already recommended to general attention the merits of Mr. Babbage's interesting book on its appearance, we need only now state that in its two subsequent editions the public will find several additions and improvements of considerable value, particularly three new chapters "on money as a medium of "exchange," "on a new system of manufacturing," and "on the effect of machinery in reducing the demand "for labour." From the first we extract the following description of "the clearing-house," which must appear curious and interesting to such of our readers as have heard of a daily adjustment of bankers' accounts without knowing the particular manner in which it is accomplished:—

"CLEARING-HOUSE.—In a large room in Lombard-street about 30 clerks from the several London bankers take their stations, in alphabetical order, at desks placed round the room, each having a small open box by his side, and the name of the firm to which he belongs in large characters on the wall above his head. From time to time other clerks from every house enter the room, and, passing along drop into the box, the checks due by that firm to the house from which this distributor is sent. The clerk at the table enters the amount of the several checks in a book previously prepared, under the name of the bank to which they are respectively due.

"4 o' clock in the afternoon is the latest hour to which the boxes are open to receive checks, and at a few minutes before that time some signs of increased activity begin to appear in this previously quiet and business-like scene. Numerous clerks then arrive, anxious to distribute, up to the latest possible moment, the checks which have been paid into the houses of their employers.

"At 4 o' clock all the boxes are removed, and each clerk adds up the amount of the checks put into his box and payable by his own to other houses. He also receives another book from his own house, containing the amount of the checks which their distributing clerk has put into the box of every other banker. Having compared these, he writes out the balances due to or from his own house opposite the name of each of the other banks; and having verified this statement by a comparison with the similar list made by the clerks of those houses, he sends to his own bank the general balance resulting from this sheet, the amount of which, if it is due from that to other houses, is sent back in bank-notes.

"At 5 o' clock the inspector takes his seat when each clerk, who has up on the result of all the transactions a balance to pay to various other houses, pays it to the inspector, who gives a ticket for the amount. The clerks of those houses to whom money is due then receive the several sums from the inspector, who takes from them a ticket for the amount. Thus the whole of these payments are made by a double system of balance, a very small amount of bank-notes passing from hand to hand, and scarcely any coin.

"It is difficult to form a satisfactory estimate of the sums which daily pass through this operation: they fluctuate from 2,000,000*l.* to perhaps 15,000,000*l.* About 2,500,000*l.* may possibly be considered as something like an average, requiring for its adjustment, perhaps, 200,000*l.* in bank-notes and 20*l.* in specie. By an agreement between the different bankers, all checks which have the name of any firm written across them must pass through the clearing-house: consequently, if any such check should be lost, the firm on which it is drawn would refuse to pay it at the counter —a circumstance which adds greatly to the convenience of commerce.

"The advantage of this system is such, that two meetings a-day have been recently established—one at 12, the other at 3 o'clock: but the payment of balances takes place once only, at 5 o'clock.

"If all the private banks kept accounts with the Bank of England, it would be possible to carry on the whole of these transactions with a still smaller quantity of circulating medium."—*Times, March* 23,

## PORTUGAL.—MARCH 24.

Since the 24th of January nothing active had occurred, except the raising of forts and redoubts by both parties, the object of the Miguelites being to form a complete blockade, and so to starve out their enemy, while that of Solignac was to hold his position until the arrival of reinforcements sufficient to justify his going out. In fulfilment of that object the Miguelities have lately directed their attention to cutting off the communication between the town and the villages of St. Joao da Foz, situate at the mouth of the Douro, on the north bank. This important quarter—important because it is the opening through which supplies are obtained for the city—is intrusted to the command of [illegible] Saldanha, having under him the 12th Ca[illegible] and 3d and 10th Infantry (Portuguese) [illegible] Scotch Fusileers, under the immediate [illegible] mand of Colonel Shaw—a force amounting [illegible] the whole to 1,500 men.

On the evening of the 3d inst. the enemy made a movement upon the lines at the Serra, but easily yielded to the opposition offered. This feint, and the fact of large bodies of troops having been seen for two days crossing the river from the south, led to the expectation of something important on the morrow. The troops in the city were therefore ordered to remain under arms all night. Next morning (the 4th), at 4 o'clock, a brisk firing commenced all round the lines, while a second attack was threatened on the Serra. General Torres, commanding in that quarter, withdrew his pickets, and allowed the enemy to advance to an open space, when he opened upon them from five batteries with grape and canister, and speedily forced them to retire with considerable loss.

At 6 o'clock a. m. the real point of the enemy's attack became apparent. At that hour two columns, of about 4,000 and 2,000 each, were seen advancing under colours to attack the right, between the Foz and Lordello. At half-past 6 the position of Pastelleiro, and towards a redoubt on the left occupied by Saldanha with the Portuguese, forming the right of the point of attack, was saluted with heavy artillery to cover the advancing columns, while the battery above Lordello opened on the position between Matta Sept, lying between the battery and Pastelleiro, this position being occupied by the Scotch Fusileers, and forming the centre and the left of the point of attack, the former under Colonel Jones, and the latter under cover of this fire, moved on the Pastelleiro, occupied by the 3d Infantry, while the other advanced between the lighthouse and Pastelleiro, occupied by the 10th Cagadores. Both columns were allowed to advance till close upon the redoubts, when a brisk firing of grape and canister and of musketry, opened upon them, which compelled them to fall back in confusion. The fugitives of the column repulsed from Pastelleiro, formed with a third body intended for the attack of Matta Sept. which then rushed to the attack with great boldness; the assailants were kept at bay by the Fusileers until half past 9, when the 12th Cagadores joined and made the fire so hot, that the enemy were forced to to retire in great disorder; a second time they returned to the attack, and were again repulsed and forced to retire to a hollow, keeping up, however, a sharp fire on Matta Sept. At this time a field-piece was brought to bear on the point from which the enemy had retreated, when they returned attack for the third time; they were now met by a murderous discharge of grape and canister, and by 10 o'clock the whole line of attack had retreated, after four hours of most desperate firing. The defeat of the Miguelites on this occasion has been one of the most signal that has occurred since the commencement of the siege. Their retreat, Major Shaw said to me, he could not understand upon any other iden than that if he had followed up the pursuit they would have come over to him in a body. This idea—I know not how just it might be—appears since to have been confirmed by the fact, that officers even are put upon picket duty with the view of preventing desertion. If this be the case, the situation of San Lorenzo must be any thing but a pleasant one; for, in addition to this feeling of desertion, great sickness prevailed among his troops owing to their exposure to the late tempetuous weather, the loss averaging 45 men per day.

At first the loss of the Miguelites in the action was said in Oporto to amount only to 600 killed and wounded, but the reports of deserters, coupled with the fact of about 400 dead having been seen on the ground from which the enemy retired, soon augmented the number of killed and wounded to 2,000, which at one time I was myself inclined to believe, having accidentally been with Major Shaw on the 7th, when a galego, who had been seized by the Miguelite pickets a fortnight before, made his escape from their lines, and reported to the Major that they were still engaged in burying their dead; but I have adopted the number of 1,500, because in a private letter from one of the Ministers, he limits the Miguelite loss to this amount. The loss of the enemy must have been certainly considerable, because a British officer of the ships in the Douro had an opportunity of learning the nature of the signal made after the action from the Miguelite lines on the north, to the forts on the south side, which was, that they had been repulsed with great loss, and that loss would have been greater than it actually was had not Solignac, on the morning of the action, given strict orders that operations should be limited simply to defence; and these orders he repeated duriug the day so that the French and English brought up in reserve took no part in the action; but to those interested in this struggle, the number put *hors de combat* must be of little importance, in comparison with the moral effect produced upon those within Oporto by the termination of this glorious day.

The loss on Don Pedro's side on this day was 22 killed and 56 wounded, chiefly from the Scotch Brigade, although, with the exception of them, the whole of the troops engaged in the action were Portuguese, who fought most bravely. The reason of the much [illegible] ter of the Miguelites is of course [illegible] by their coming up-in close col[illegible] der the range of the immense vo[illegible] and canister shot which were rese[illegible]

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